SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT





TECHNICAL REPORT

PROJECT TITLE HOLE FILE CCPY

THE PROPERTY

PROJECT NO. NOTE TO

REPORT TITLE DEVELOPMENT OF STRUCTURE

FOR U. S. RIFLE CAL .. 30 MI. MANUFACTURIN

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM NO. 45.

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

ITEM -30 R III DATE 13 Jan. 1948 SA-TR 11-1600

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TITLE: (6) Development of Air Gage for U. S. Rifle Cal. .30 kl. Menufecturing Development Progress No. 45.

RECREE : 0:

SA-7811-1000

AUTHORITY:

0.0.474.2/13 SAL76.2/2026 Production Order 3-5098 J.C. 3248-6860

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Development of Air Gage for U. S. Hifle Cal., 30 11. Enufacturing Development

Progress 10. 45.

ME CRITT:

0.0. 474,2/13 3A474.2/2026 Production Order 3-5098

J.O. 3E48-6860

FRICRITY:

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CDJACT:

To develop, design and test an air care for checking the effective grs seal in

U. S. Rifles Cal. . 30 11.

30.11.77:

an oir gaging device was developed and fabricated that would measure the affective gas scal in J. 3. Rifles, Cal..30, 11. Extensive tests of this apparatus were conducted using weapons pending overheul from which an acceptance criterion for rifles was established.

This device will select all weapons for acceptance in which the clearance between the ges cylinder and piston is representative of clearances repring up to a maximum ellowable drawing clearance.

ca.oravia.3:

It is concluded that air gaging is a practicel means of obtaining measurements of gas seel values. It also provides a method of reasonably estimating functional life in so far as the gas system is concerned. It does not assure function because other factors such as friction and work or broken components are not taken into consideration by air gaging.

TESSARON LID DEVALORIZATE DIVISION SPRINGFILID PRINGFILID

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RESEARCH AND DIVILIBRET DIVISION

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JUNI XI:

Air Gege for U. S. Rifle, Cal..30, Mil

RJF :431033:

CO474.2/13 3A474.2/2026 Lenufacturing Development Program No. 45 Froduction Order 3-5098 J.O. 3548-6860

PURCLECTICE: 1. Considerable difficulty was experienced by the 38th infentry Division with short recoil malfunctions in the U. S. Rifle, Cal. 30, Ml. through exhaustive test, was found to be due to excessive Wear between the operating rod and gas cylinder which ellowed the escape of aveilable ges pressure to the extent where the initial impetus given the operating parts was insuffieight to carry out the entire cycle of semi-entometio fire. The problem of selecting deficient weepons was presented to Col. Waskell, Ordnance Officer, Headquarters X1 Corps. Col. Eskell's approach was besed on the principle that, at a given pressure, the flow of eir through an orifice is in direct proportion to the size of the orifice, and that the rate of flow may be indirectly measured by means of pressure rages on either side of the orifice. Then by establishing the pressure believes or rate of flow through a new gas system Essembly as compared to an unscryideable one, it would be possible to set limits of servicesbility End determine expeated life of operation. this in mind the Office of Chief of Ordnance presented the problem to opringfield armory as a development project.

> 2. A portable oir so a model was fabricated and tested at the among and a tentative draft of l'otes on lateriel was prepured. This gage was subjected to test at Raritan arsanal, based upon which a list of refine ents to be incorporated in the same was suggested by the Office of Chief of Ordnance. The development of en improved air gage model is contrined in this report.

> > **ETOL**FICE R

iaterial and Lyingt:

See Appendix I

DISTRUCTICE'S

See Appendix II

FROCEDURA:

- 1. Fifty field service weepons pending overheal were thoroughly cleaned to eliminate lubrication or other matter which might influence function.
- 2. Rech weepon were checked for differential existing between readings obtained with the operating rod in the forward and rearward positions, and 32 weepons with differentials ranging from 4-3/4 to 13-3/4 pounds were selected for determination of function efficiency.
- Wespons were then fired in a dry condition from the pendulum and in the jack rest, eight rounds each, using A.P. ammunition.
- 4. Tempors were then lubricated and tested as before. In addition 8 rounds of 12 bell amountain was used in each weapon fired in the pendulum.
- 5. Upon completion of this test, ell components which effect power seal were raged.
- 6. A second test was run with six other field service weepons renging from 4 to 15 pounds differential, selected for determining the probable border line condition of differential. Listons of .5220, .5230, .5240 and .5250 diameter were assembled in weepons for air gaging and function firing. Weepons were lutricated and functioned from the shoulder using III bell ammunition.
- 7. In each of these tests weapon number 2835241 was used as a reference.
- 8. In all gage readings with the bolt forward (high pressure reading), the poppet valve opening was satled with the l'oppet Valve Sealing Clamp so as to eliminate any influencing of results by gas lackage.

MISULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

- 1. For a comparative analysis of the weapons referred to in the following discussion refer to Table I and Table II2
- 2. Weapon #2835841 representing a rifle of maximum electance between piston and cylinder was air gaged with the following results. With the bolt forward the back pressure reading was 12 pounds, and with the bolt recruerd the back pressure reading was 6 pounds, giving a differential of 6 pounds. In other words a differential of 6 pounds indicates a condition equal to a maximum clearance condition between the gas cylinder and piston. A differential of 7 pounds allows a factor of safety of 1 pound.
- 3. The 56 field service weapons pending overheul were selected as a possible representation of the 38th Infantry weapon status.
 Thirty four percent of the lubricated weapons fired from the jack rest with A.P. Ammunition short recoiled. The differential
 of the faulty weapons ranged from 6-1/2 to
 10-1/2 pounds. Since these values are above
 the air gage differential of the reference
 weapon \$2835841 it is reasonable to assume
 that failure was not necessarily dependent
 entirely on inferior power seal. This reasoning is substantiated by the fact that two
 other weapons with differentials of 4-3/4 and
 5 pounds functioned properly.
- 4. Sighty-four percent of the unlubricated weapons short recoiled in the jack rest. This was an increase of fifty percent failure over jack rest lubricated weapons, indicating that a good percentage of short recoil malfunctions can be caused by friction.
- fired in the pendulum with A.P. emmunition short recoiled. This was an increase of sixty-three percent failure over jack rest lubricated was posses, indicating need of support as a safegural against short recoil melfunctions.

- The number of short recoils produced with M2 Ball Armunition in lubricated weapons fired in the pendulum was twenty-seven percent less than the number of short recoils produced by using A.P. Armunition. The A.P. Armunition used in this test had a lower port pressure than the M2 Ball Ammunition (reference - Partial Hemorandum Report No. SA-MR-11-1002) resulting in a condition which tended to produce more short recoils, due to less pressure being induced on the piston. This condition could tend to produce short recoils particularly in marginal powered weapons. Further pressure testing of ammunition is anticipated in order to determine if this condition is characteristic of A.P. · and Ball Ammunition, or of the particular lots of emmunition used in this test.
- 7. Weapons not lubricated and fired from the pendulum with A.P. Armunition short recoiled every round fired. Successful operation under these conditions indicates that the weapon is overpowered and malfunctions may result that are similar in aspect to short recoils. That is to say, in an overpowered weapon the recoil and rebound are so rapid that the bolt fails to pick up a round and chember it. The same result exists from a short recoil where the bolt does not recoil sufficiently to pick up the succeeding round. In both cases the bolt is closed on an empty chamber,
- 8. A comparison of manual gaging with port pressure reading (reading on back pressure gage with bolt rearward) ranging from 4 to 6-1/4 pounds, shows the possibility of checking port hole size with the air gage. Readings of 5 to 6 pounds show that the port hole opening was acceptable to the manual gage. Therefore port pressure readings of less than 5 pounds or greater than 7 pounds should be investigated by manual gaging of the port hole. The 7 pound figure is used because in some cases the gas cylinder assembly with the piston back will influence the low pressure reading. This condition can be eliminated by removing the gas cylinder look screw.
- 9. A break-down of gas seal was initiated to determine the probable border line condition of weapon differential. That is the value at which

the power seal is unsatisfectory for normal usage of the weepon. The test material consisted of seven weepons with power seal values of from 4 to 15 pounds differential, low port pressure ammunition and four pistons of .5220, .5230, .5240 and .5250 diemeter. Respons were lubricated and fired from the shoulder to simulate normal usage. Test results showed that by selective assembly of the four pistons, in the test weepons, differential from 1 to 2-1/2 pounds caused short recoils, but from 3 pounds up no short recoils occurred. This indicates that the rejority of weepons under 3 pounds differential fired with average shoulder support will short recoil.

- 10. Study of the date indicates that the prime factor in determining back pressure values is clearence between the piston and cylinder, providing the poppet valve scals properly, as air escapement from the relationship between the barrel bearing and cylinder is negligible.
- Air gaging of the Cal. 30 I'l rifle's gas system carclusia: 1. is a practical means of obtaining measurements of gas seal value. It does not imply that gas seal components are within drawing dimensions or that weapons will function properly. The criterion of this inspection only workants a power seal equal or better then meximum allowable drawing clearance. It does not assure function, as other factors such as friction and worn or broken components are not involved in air gaging. But in comparison to manual gaging of cas seal components, air gaging offers a means of readily obtaining ges seal values end an opportunity of reasonably estimating functional life in so far as the gas system is concerned.
 - 2. In the event that a marginal weapon is introduced for test, that is a weapon with a power seal that is on the border line of allowing short resoil malfunctions, it will be rejected as unserviceable, due to a factor of safety allowed in the differential reading above that for a weapon of maximum allowable clearance between the gas cylinder and piston.

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APPEIDIX I

LIST CY THE RIAL

- 1 Clamp, Jeapon Hounting Tracket (Plate 1)
- 1 Spring, wir Gere Thrust (Flate 2)
- 1 Washer, Air Gage Thrust Spring (Plete 3)
- 1 Guide, Air Gage Thrust (Plate 4)
- 2 Precket, Air Tere Support (Tlate 5 and 6)
- 1 Secl Luzzle (Flate 7)
- 1 Care, Foodle Valve adjusting (Flate 8)
- 1 Clamp, Foppet Valve Sealing (Phote 632934)
- 1 Brucket, leapon Tounting (Photo 63303A)
- 1 Seel, Chamber (Photo 63295A)
- 1 Container, Air Gage (Photo 6328SA)
- I Plete, Base (Photo 6330SA)
- 2 Rorgren Regulating and Reducing Valves, Type 2A3, with beck mounted gages 0 to 160 pounds.
- 1 Rergren Filter, 3/8 I.P.T.
- 1 Ashcroft Duregage 0 to 60 pounds
- 1 Schreder Reoprene Air Hose, No. 9617
- 1 Crane Brass Steam Cook, No. 268
- 1 Crane Square Read Wrench, No. 1-S

- 2 Bress 3lbows, 3/8 inch I.P.T.

 2 Bress Tees, 1/4 inch I.P.T.

 2 Bress Lipples, 2 inch, 3/8 inch I.P.T.

 2 Bress Close Lipples, 3/8 inch I.P.T.

 5 Bress Close Mipples, 1/4 inch I.P.T.

 1 Bress Reducer, 3/8 inch to 1/4 inch I.P.T.

- 1 Luukenheimer Bronze Feedle Valve, No. 906-55

WEAPOIS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 1 U. S. Rifle Cal..30 Hl No. 2835841 with a gas cylinder of maximum internel diemeter and a piston of minimum outside diameter.
- 1 Recoil Jack Rest.
- 56 U. S. Rifles Cel..30 bl pending overhaul.
- 1 Pendulum and trigger actuating device for free recoil.

WILL ILION:

- Cal..30 El Bell Lot FA 2139
- Cal..30 M2 Ball Lot FA 3732 Cal..30 M2 A.P. Lot TW 18968

APPRIDIX II

CERTIFICE CF CAGE

1. Unfold carrying case to expose air gage (Photo 633134)

- 2. Fully open pet cock on bottom of filter (turn counter-clockwise)
- Buck off adjusting screw on top of both reducing valves (turn counter-clockwise) until screw turns freely.
- 4. Close reedle valve lightly against its seet (turn clockwise)
- 5. Turn three way velve hendle down (gage check position)
- 6. Connect eir hose to dir supply. Allow temporery escepement of eir through filter to purge eir system of impurities
- 7. Close pet cook on filter
- 3. Turn edjusting screw on first reducing valve clockwise until s 60 pound pressure reading on its gage is obtained
- 9. Turn edjusting screw on second reducing valve clockwise until
 2 8 40 pound pressure reading on its rage is obtained
- 10. Blowly open needle valve adjustment counter-clockwise until a 20 pound pressure reading is obtained on the back pressure gage.
- 11. Raise three way valve handle to operating position. Air gage is now ready for inspection of the weapon gas system.
- 12. Unfold Jespon Hounting Bracket and lock essinst air Gage Support Bracket with Meapon Hounting Bracket Clemp.
- 13. Insert muzzle end of weepon into Luzzle Seal and press butt end into Weapon Hounting Bracket.
- 14. Open bolt to rear locking position, insert Chamber Seal, and hold with thumb pressure sufficiently to effect a chamber eir seal for obtaining low pressure reading on back pressure gage. (Photo 6332SA)
- 15. Lower three way valve handle to check position. This eliminates tendency for Chamber Beal to be expelled
- 16. Release bolt against Chamber Seal
- 17. Raise three way valve handle to operating position, and hold operating rod forward with slight thumb pressure. (Phote 6333SA) Tlace furefinger of left hand over the gas cylinder look serew poppet valve opening, or use Poppet Valve Sealing Clamp to eliminate possible leakage through the poppet valve. For obtain high pressure reading on back pressure gage.
- 18. Release forefinger or Foppet Valve Besling Clamp. Any drop in pressure reading denotes poppet velve leakage. If a difference of 4 or more pounds is noted, replace Gas Cylinder Lock Borew Assembly.
- 19. The high pressure reading less the low pressure reading shows the weapon differential. A differential of seven pounds or greater is considered acceptable.

RECORDINATIONS:

- 1. Theroughly clean weepon before air raging.
- 2. After eir reging, function fire weepons which neet the eir gage criterion with A.P. emmunition, from a free hold hip position so us to reject any weapon which melfunctions for research other than was system failure.
- 3. Twenty pound edjustment on the back pressure gage should be occasionally checked during usage of gage and reset if necessary.
- 4. All weepons with a differential recding of less than seven younds should be rejected pending replacement of any system components.
- 5. In the event that the air gage reading with the bolt rearand is greater than 7 younds, remove the gas cylinder look screw. If the air gage reading remains above the 7 yound limit, the weapons should be rejected pending investigation of the gas port opening.

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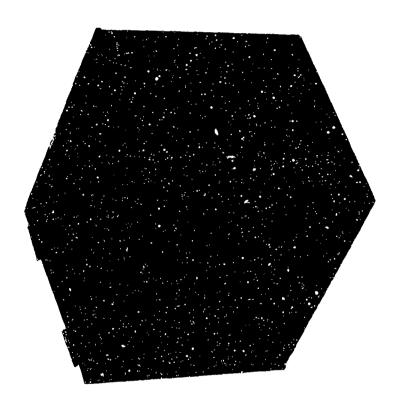
TABLE II

BREAT DOWN OF GAS SWAL TO DETERMINE INCOMBLE TORDER FITS CONDITION OF TRAFON DIFF WAS TIAL

	GAGE PRI	ICHER EFICE	G - LBS.	o el Ballando.
RIFLE	BOLT	BCLT	[i si:ort
TU. BER	FOR ARD	RELATIARD	DIFF.	RECOILS
2835841	12	6	6	f:one
1309732	11	7	4	None
623715	13	. 6	7	Tone
2761165	15	6	9	l'one
2983507	1.2	7	103	Lone
2786207	20	5	13	lone
2755145	20	6	14	l'one
1309732	10 PL	FOR DIA.	525 3½	lione
	PI	STO DIA.	524	
1309732 523715	8-3/4	5TO DIA 6-1/4	524 22 3	Tone :
1309732 523715	8 - 3/4 9	6 -1 /4 6	2克 3	l:one
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	8-3/4 9 F1	6-1/4 6 STC DIA	2½ 3 523 2	1 8
523715 1309732	8-3/4 9	6-1/4 6 STC DLA	2½ 3 523	
523715 1309732 2761165 2835841	8-3/4 9 F1	6-1/4 6 370 DIA 6 6	2½ 3 523 2 3 3	8 1 one
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HOTE: All weepons fired from the shoulder.

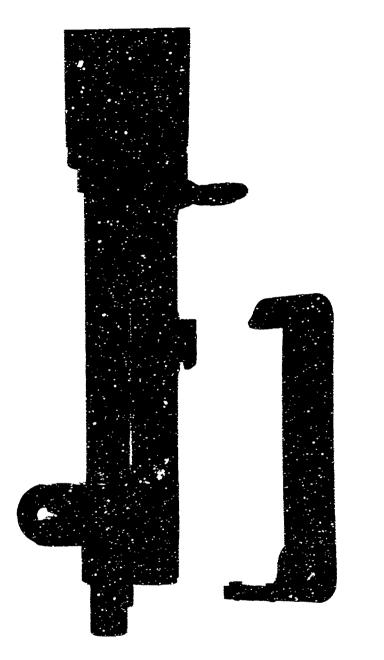




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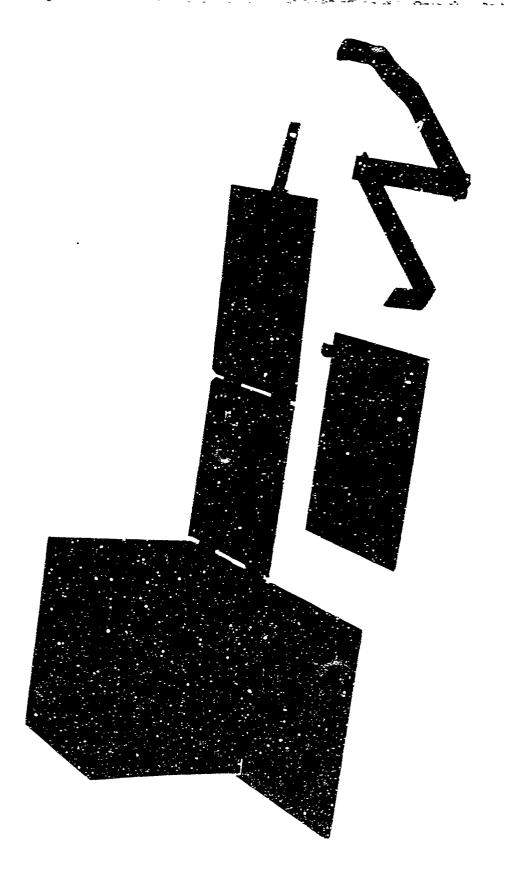
6328-SA SPRINGFIELD ARMORY - ORDNANOE DEP

CONTAINER for Caliber .30 Ml Mill Air Gase





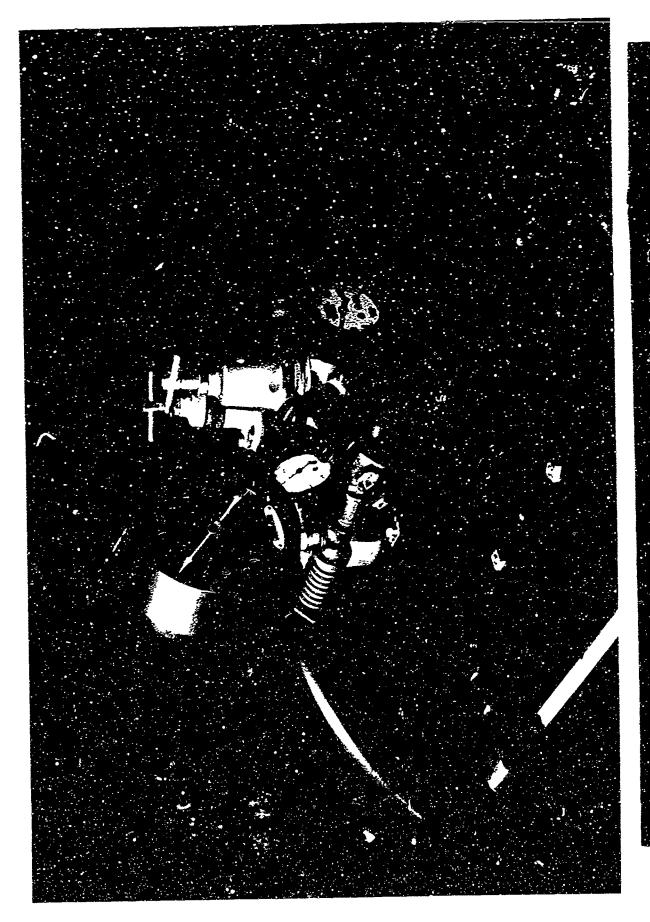
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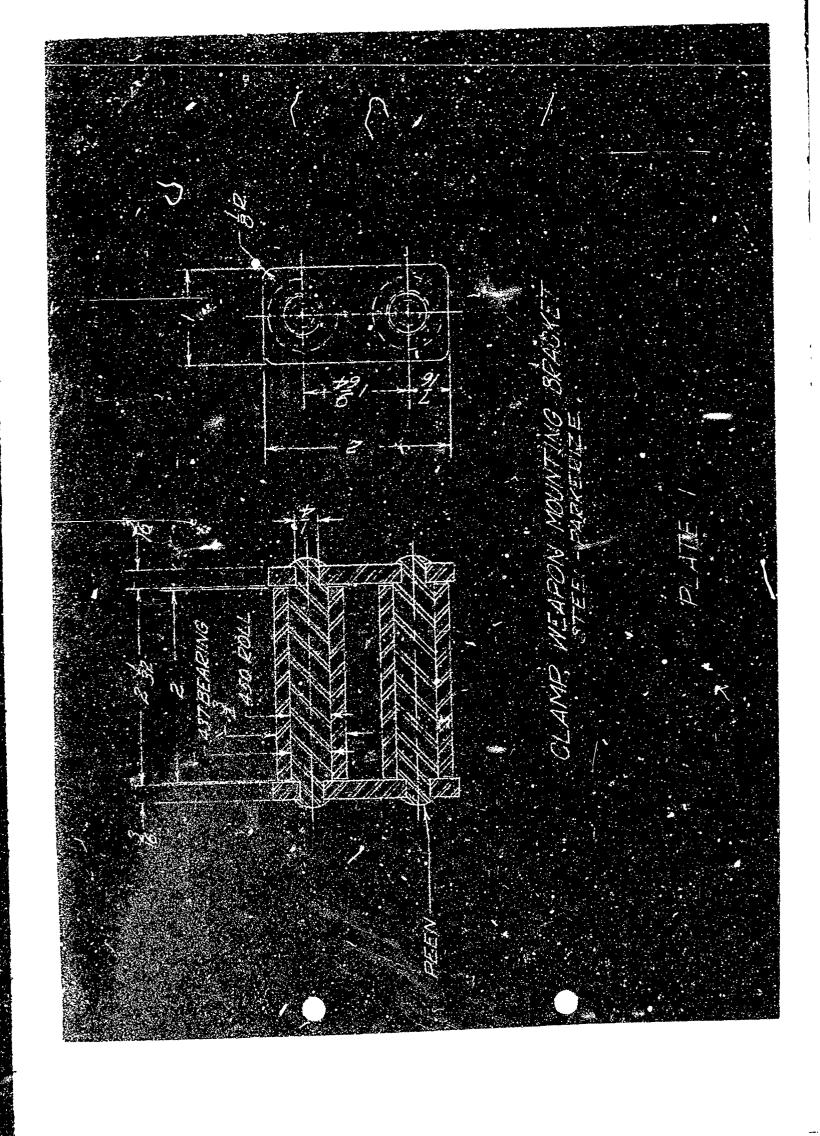
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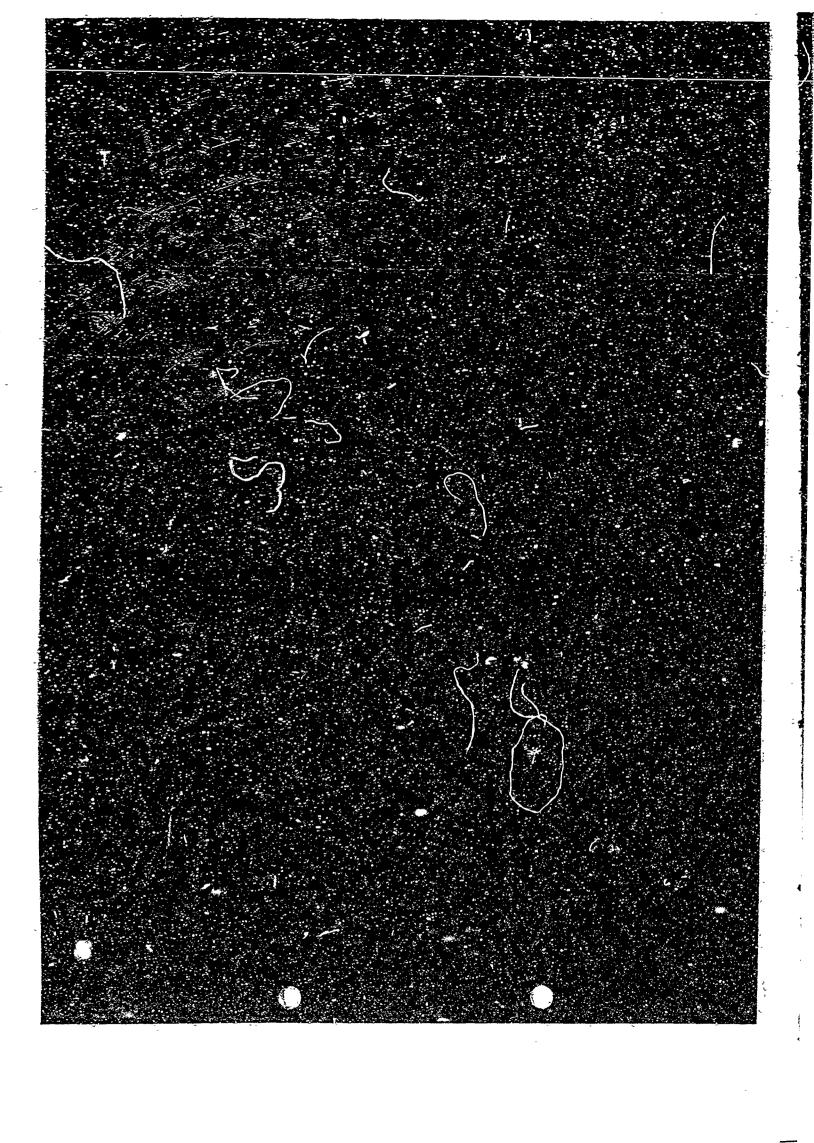
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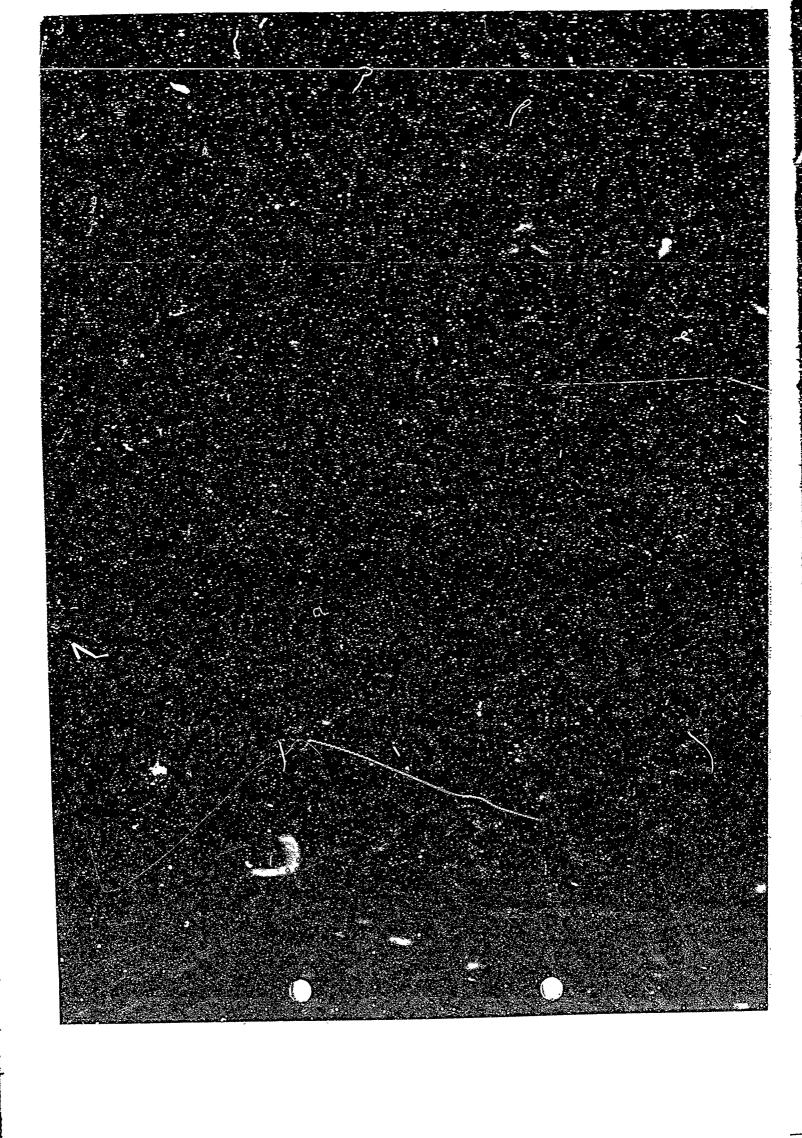


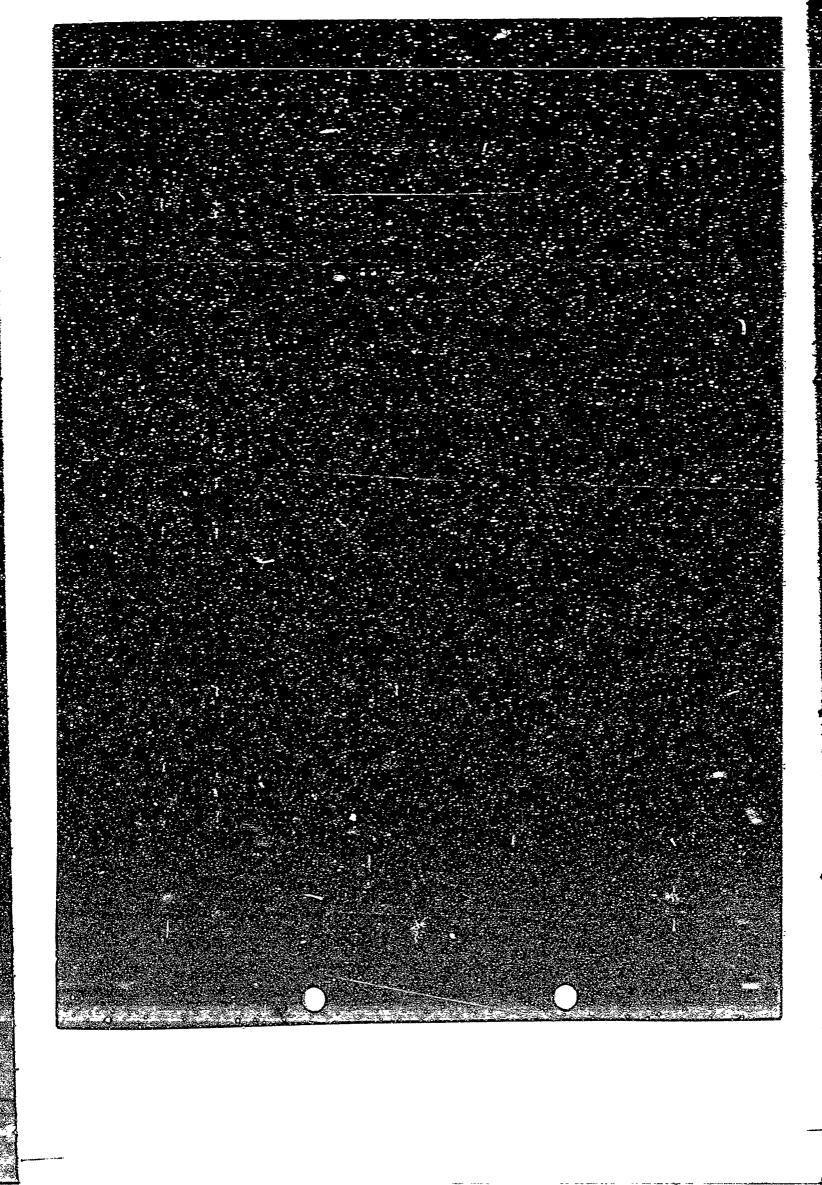
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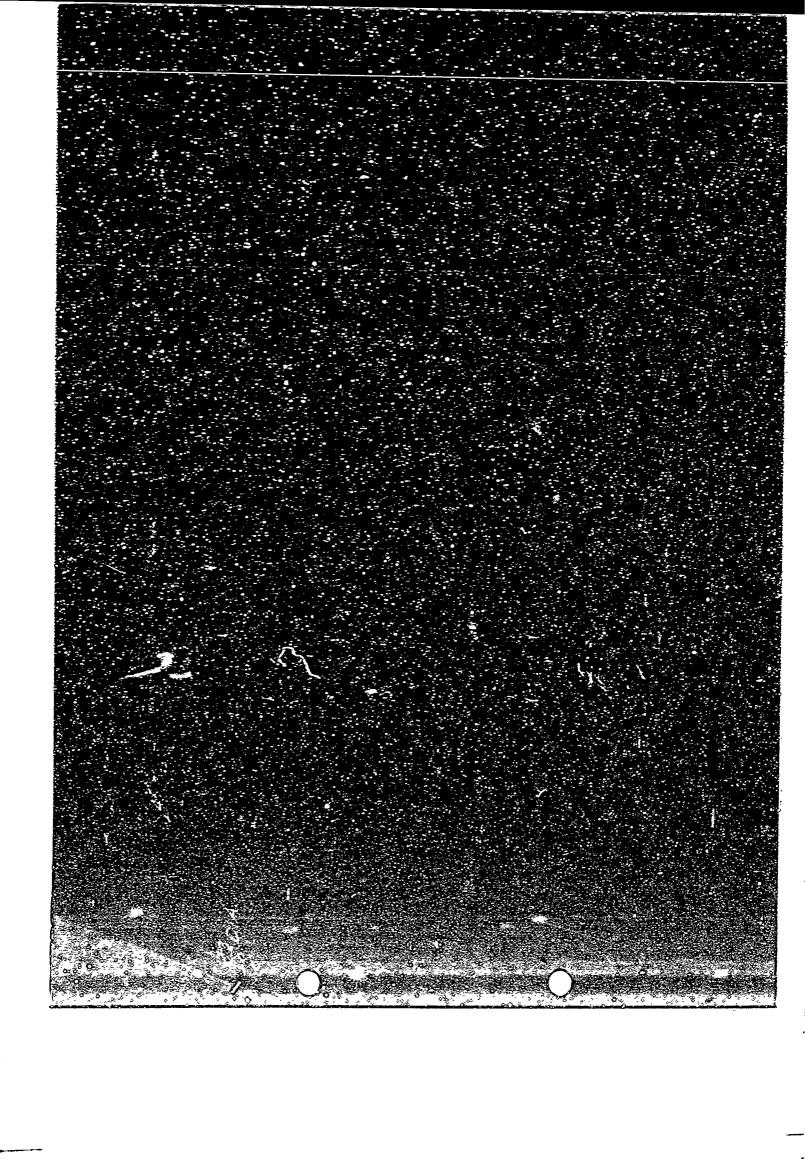
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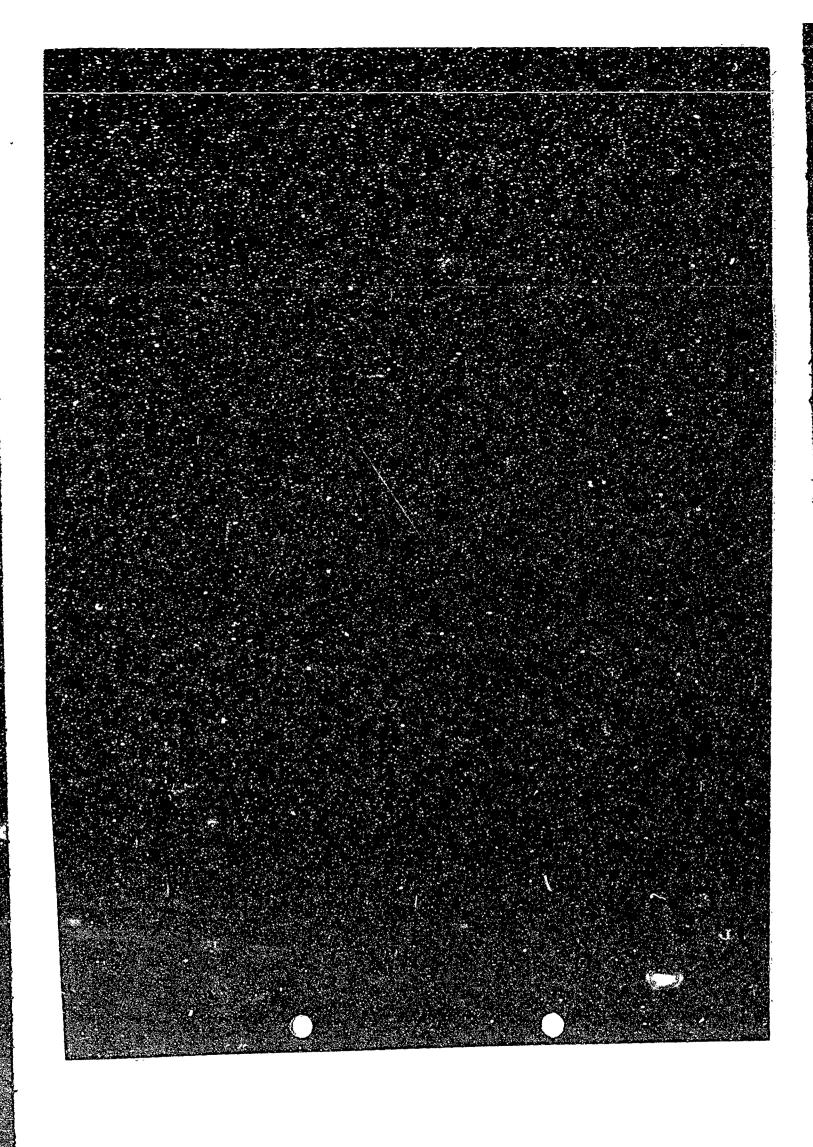


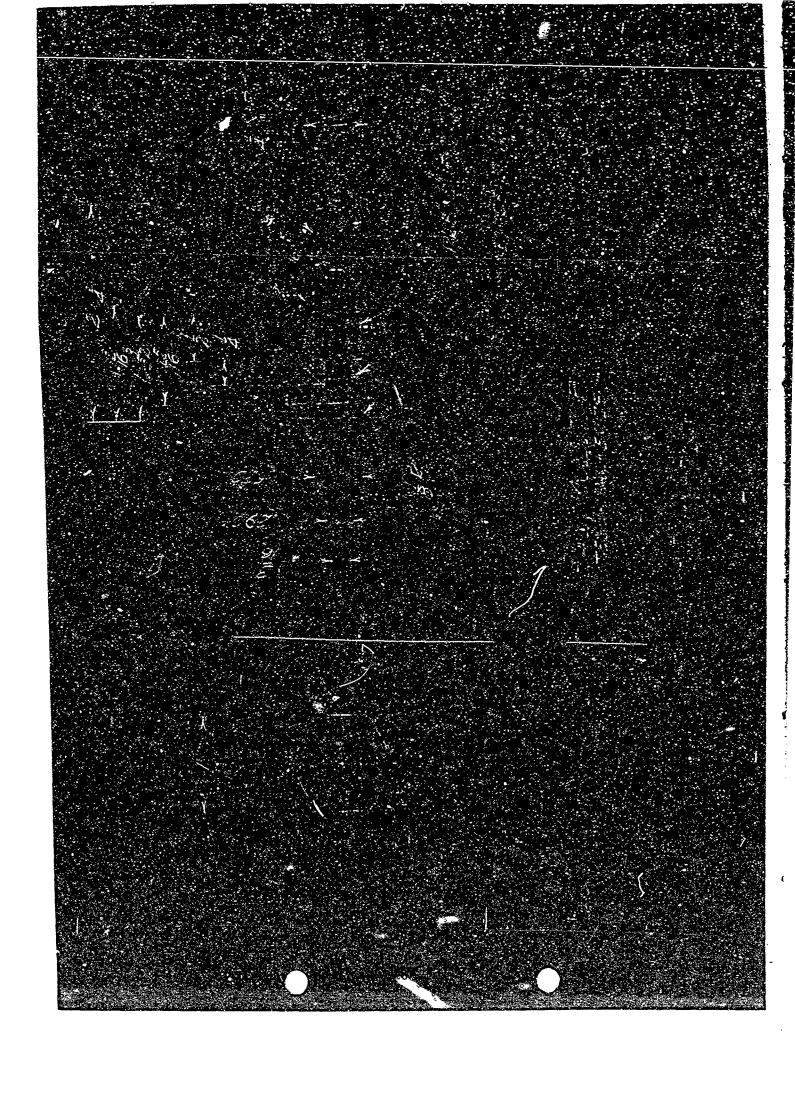


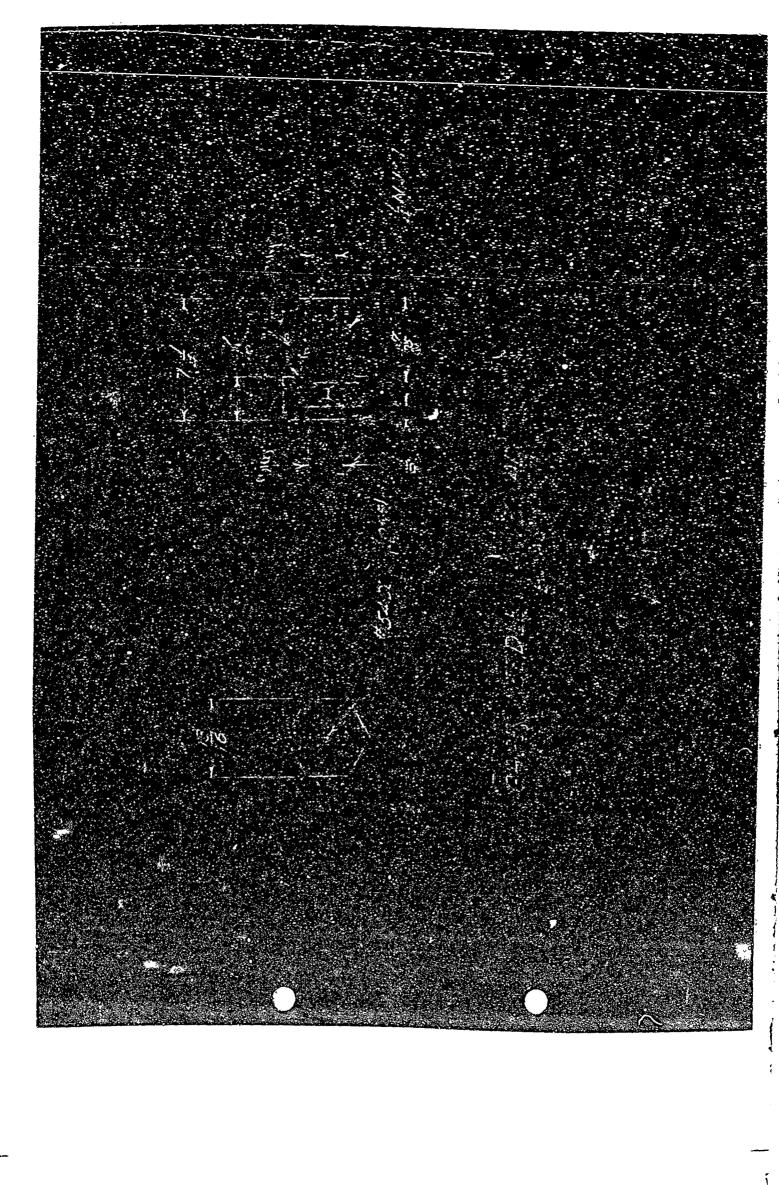












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